

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
 - two or more different software systems producing electronic data relating to a transaction involving documentation communicated in an electronic form;
 - processing copies of the electronic data to identify electronic documentation items and at least one key value associated with an electronic documentation item;
 - using the at least one key value to look up a transaction identifier associated with the transaction, wherein the transaction includes one transaction identifier and two or more associated key values;
 - indexing the documentation items according to the at least one key value and transaction identifier;
 - archiving the documentation items in a data storage system or device; and
 - logging one or more of a date and/or and time associated with at least some of the documentation items.

2. (Currently Amended) A data structure stored in storage medium, comprising:
 - a transaction specification database that contains specifications and schema for one or more transaction types and key values of each transaction type;
 - a life cycle Index table that contains the key values of the processed transactions and the assigned life cycle IDs for the key values;
 - an archive database that contains the archived documents or items and their life cycle IDs; and
 - a log detail database that provides chronological order to transactions by logging and time stamping each transaction parsed; and
wherein:
transaction data stored within the data structure is associated with transactions,
and

data associated with a single transaction and stored in each of the transaction specification database, the life cycle Index table, the archive database, and the log detail database is searchable in a single query.

3. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

a first interface used to couple the system with a first external system producing first electronic data relating to a transaction involving documentation communicated in an electronic form, wherein the first electronic data includes at least a first key value;

a second interface used to couple the system with a second external system producing second electronic data relating to the transaction, wherein the second electronic data includes at least a second key value; and

wherein the system is operable to:

process copies of the first and second electronic data to identify electronic documentation items and at least one key value associated with an electronic documentation item;

use the key value to look up a transaction identifier associated with the transaction;

index the documentation items according to key value and transaction identifier; archive the documentation items; and

log one or more of a date and/or time associated with at least some of the documentation items.